THE BEST OF BRITISH COMICS — IT'S

TERRIFIC

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THE BIRTH OF GIANT MAN

Part 2

FROM AN ALIEN DIMENSION COMES THE *ERASER*. HIS MISSION: THE CAPTURE OF FIVE TOP EARTH SCIENTISTS (INCLUDING HENRY PYM). HIS METHOD—*ERASING!*

- - - WHISKED TO ANOTHER WORLD, THE *MASTER OF MANY SIZES* AND THE *WONDERFUL WASP* ELUDE THEIR SINISTER GUARDS AND SEEK NOW TO *RESCUE* THEIR FELLOW PRISONERS...

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MINUTES LATER...
DO NOT BE IMPATIENT! SOON YOU WILL BE TAKEN TO OUR SCIENCE LABORATORY!
A LOT OF GOOD I'LL DO YOUR SCIENTISTS!
YOU CAN'T KEEP US HERE THIS WAY!
RELAX, PROFESSOR! THEY CAN AND THEY KNOW IT!

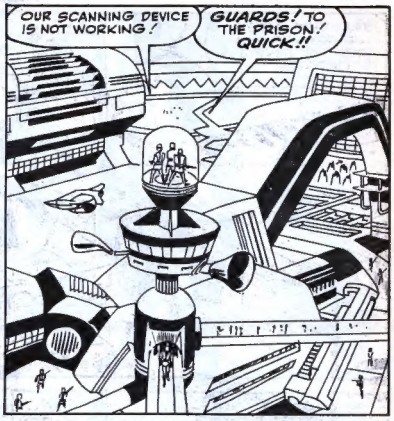
THE GUARDS ARE LEAVING! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
OUR CHANCE FOR WHAT?

I'LL EXPLAIN AS WE GO! SEE THAT SMALL ELECTRONIC DEVICE ON THE CEILING? DISMANTLE IT!!
WHAT A BOSSY HUSBAND YOU'D MAKE!

R-RIP!
IT'S SOME SORT OF SCANNING DEVICE! THEY MUST KEEP TABS ON THEIR PRISONERS THIS WAY!
BUT NOT ANY LONGER! I DISCONNECTED THE THINGAMY FROM THE WHATCHAMACALLIT!
GOOD GIRL! NOW I'LL TAKE MY GROWTH CAPSULE!

LOOK! WE-WE HAVE A NEW GUEST!
LISTEN, QUICKLY, GENTLEMEN! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME...I'M HERE TO HELP YOU!
HE'S GROWING BEFORE OUR EYES!

HURRY, HANDSOME! THE GUARDS HAVE BEEN ALERTED!
LOOK! I'M GOING TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS DIMENSION... THEN I'LL RETURN FOR YOU! MEAN-TIME, STALL THEM ALL YOU CAN!
A TINY FLYING GIRL! I'M GOIN' NUTS!


OUR SCANNING DEVICE IS NOT WORKING!
GUARDS! TO THE PRISON! QUICK!!

IF ANY PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED, THESE SUPER-SENSITIVE SEARCH-BEAM GUNS WILL FIND THEM!

GOOD THING YOU SHRUNK DOWN AGAIN, HANK! WE'RE TOO SMALL FOR THEIR SEARCH-BEAMS TO PICK UP!

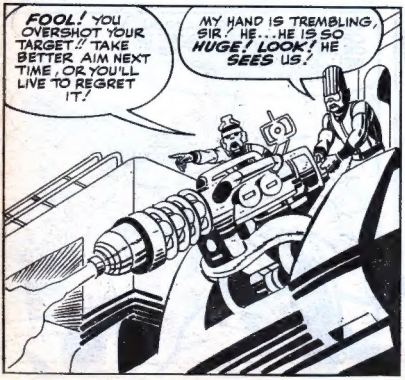
YOU STAY THIS SIZE, JAN! IT'LL BE SAFER FOR YOU! AS FOR ME... WHAT MUST BE DONE NOW CAN ONLY BE DONE BY ONE PERSON...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

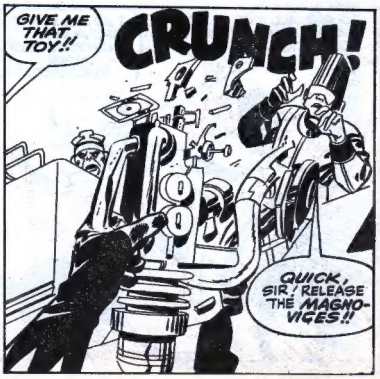
I MEAN... IT'S TIME FOR OUR LITTLE FRIENDS TO MEET... GIANT-MAN!!
LOOK!! ANOTHER HUMAN!
GET HIM!

I'LL JUST GATHER YOU BOYS UP IN A NICE TIDY BUNDLE... LIKE THIS!
HE'S BECOME TWICE OUR SIZE!! HE'S A GIANT!!

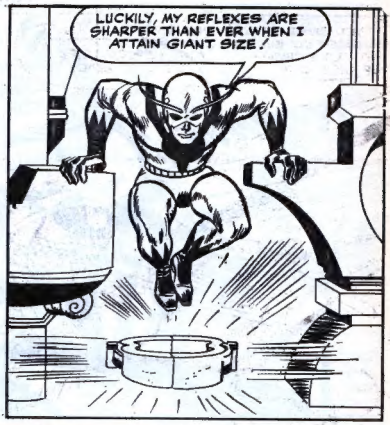
NOW I'LL DEPOSIT YOU IN THIS HANDY LITTLE MONO-RAIL CAR! THERE! ISN'T THAT COMFY?
NOW OFF YOU GO, SMALL FRY! HAVE A NICE TRIP!

WHAT'S THAT? I WAS ALMOST HIT BY SOME SORT OF RAY!


FOOL! YOU OVERSHOT YOUR TARGET!! TAKE BETTER AIM NEXT TIME, OR YOU'LL LIVE TO REGRET IT!
MY HAND IS TREMBLING, SIR! HE... HE IS SO HUGE! LOOK! HE SEES US!


GIVE ME THAT TOY!!
CRUNCH!
QUICK, SIR! RELEASE THE MAGNO-VICES!!

MAGNO-VICES ?? WHAT ON EARTH ARE THEY ?
UH OH! DOWN BELOW... COMING TOWARDS MY LEGS...!!

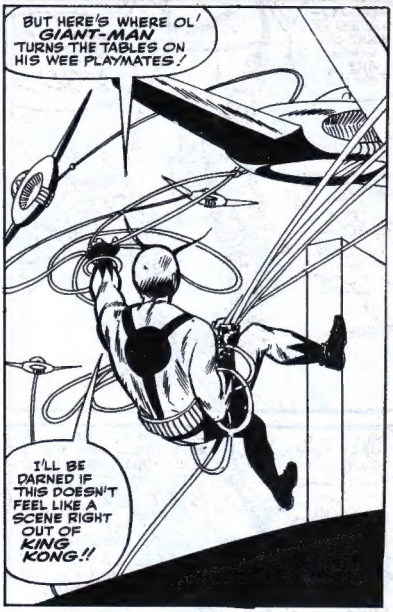

LUCKILY, MY REFLEXES ARE SHARPER THAN EVER WHEN I ATTAIN GIANT SIZE!

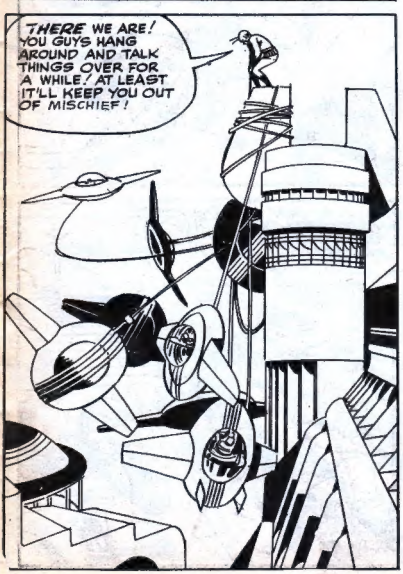
BUT I'VE NO MORE TIME TO WASTE!
I'VE GOT TO FIND THE WAY BACK TO MY OWN DIMENSION!
LOOK!! OUTSIDE OUR BALCONY... A GIANT!!
LET HIM GO! OUR SENTRY PLANES WILL GET HIM WHEN HE REACHES THE ROOF!

SO FAR, ALL I'VE GOT IS A LOT OF EXERCISE!!
I STILL CAN'T FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS ALIEN DIMENSION!

UH OH!! A WHOLE SQUADRON OF PLANES ARE ZEROED IN ON ME! WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL GIVE THEM A GOOD RECEPTION!

THEY CAN'T RELEASE BOMBS WITHOUT BLOWING UP THEIR OWN CITY...
BUT THEY'RE TRYING TO SNAG ME BY DROPPING CABLE-SNARES OVER MY HEAD!


BUT HERE'S WHERE OL' GIANT-MAN TURNS THE TABLES ON HIS WEE PLAYMATES!
I'LL BE DARNED IF THIS DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A SCENE RIGHT OUT OF KING KONG!!


THERE WE ARE! YOU GUYS HANG AROUND AND TALK THINGS OVER FOR A WHILE! AT LEAST IT'LL KEEP YOU OUT OF MISCHIEF!

GIANT-MAN! WHILE YOU'VE BEEN KIDDING AROUND UP HERE, I'VE LOCATED THE CHIEF SCIENTIST OF THIS WHOLE DIMENSION! HE'S THE ONE WHO'D KNOW HOW WE CAN ESCAPE!
GOOD GIRL! WHERE IS HE?
LOWER YOUR VOICE, BIG MAN!! YOU'LL DEAFEN ME!

AND THEN, AFTER RECEIVING DIRECTIONS FROM THE WASP...
I NEVER REALIZED THE SENSE OF POWER GIANT SIZE CAN GIVE YOU! I FEEL AS THOUGH I CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!

AH! YOU'RE THE ONE I'M LOOKING FOR! I WANT TO KNOW HOW TO ESCAPE THIS DIMENSION...
.. AND I WANT TO KNOW NOW!
MERCY! MERCY!! ONLY ONE SCIENTIST HAS THAT INFORMATION...

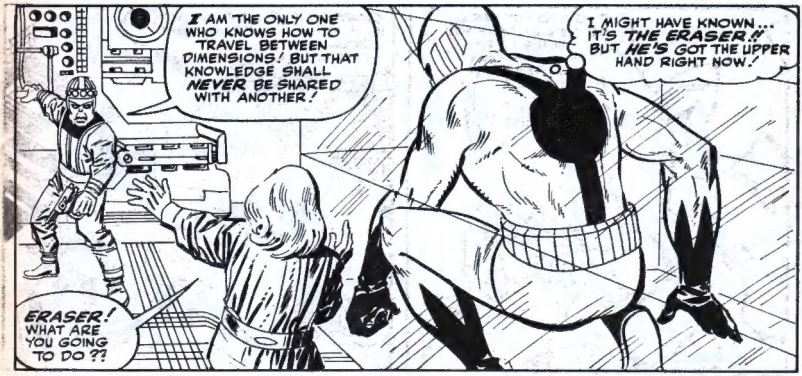
IF YOU DO NOT HARM ME, I SHALL TAKE YOU TO HIS LAB!
WE'LL TREAT YOU LIKE A RICH RELATIVE! LET'S GO!!

CAREFUL!! IF.. IF YOU SHOULD FALL...
DON'T WORRY, LITTLE FRIEND!

FINALLY...
SO THIS IS YOUR MAIN SCIENCE LAB! WELL, WELL, WHAT'S THAT I SEE...?
AN INTER-DIMENSIONAL VIEWER...FOCUSED ON MY WORLD! YOU'RE SPYING ON US!
NOW, TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, OR I'LL TAKE THIS PLACE APART!

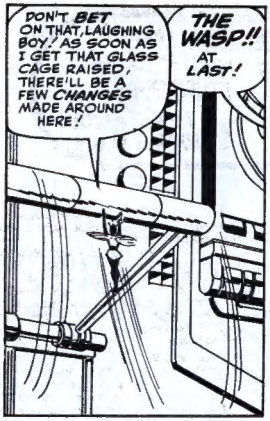
THE ONE YOU SEEK HAS NOT ARRIVED YET! YOU MUST WAIT... HE WILL BE HERE WITHIN MINUTES!
I DON'T LIKE THAT LOOK IN YOUR EYE! YOU'RE UP TO SOMETHING!
NO, NOT I! IT IS THE OTHER! THE ONE WHO HAS SILENTLY ENTERED BEHIND YOU!

AN UNBREAKABLE GLASS CAGE! IT DROPPED FROM ABOVE! I WAS TOO OVER-CONFIDENT!
ERASER! YOU ARE JUST IN TIME!


I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO TRAVEL BETWEEN DIMENSIONS! BUT THAT KNOWLEDGE SHALL NEVER BE SHARED WITH ANOTHER!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN... IT'S THE ERASER!! BUT HE'S GOT THE UPPER HAND RIGHT NOW!
ERASER! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ??

FIRST, I SHALL DISPOSE OF MY WEAKLING FELLOW SCIENTIST! THIS IS THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR LEADING GIANT-MAN HERE!
AND NOW, HUMAN ...I KNOW NOT HOW YOU ENTERED DIMENSION Z, BUT YOU SHALL NEVER LEAVE IT ALIVE!

ONLY THE ONE WHO WEARS THIS ATOMICALLY-PRINTED CIRCUIT ON THE PALM OF HIS HAND CAN TRAVEL BACK TO YOUR DIMENSION! IT IS THE ONLY ONE IN EXISTENCE, AND NONE BUT I EVER WEAR IT!


DON'T BET ON THAT, LAUGHING BOY! AS SOON AS I GET THAT GLASS CAGE RAISED, THERE'LL BE A FEW CHANGES MADE AROUND HERE!
THE WASP!! AT LAST!

ALL RIGHT, MISTER... HERE'S WHERE WE SEPARATE THE MEN FROM THE BOYS!
OOOF!!

I'LL JUST BORROW THIS LITTLE CIRCUIT OF YOURS BEFORE I PUT YOU INTO DREAMLAND!
BETTER TURN ANT-SIZED AGAIN! IT'LL BE EASIER TO TRAVEL UNSEEN!

AND SO...
YOU WERE RIGHT, JAN! NONE OF THE GUARDS EVEN SAW US!
THIS IS THE PART I DON'T LIKE! I MISS IT WHEN MEN DON'T WHISTLE AT ME!

HOLD STILL, GENTS! THIS'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE!
LOOK! WE'RE BEING ERASED AGAIN!
WE'RE RETURNING TO OUR OWN DIMENSION! WE'RE SAVED!!

AND NOW FOR US, JAN! HERE, I'VE LEARNED HOW TO DO TWO AT A TIME!
THIS IS SILLY... AT A DRAMATIC MOMENT LIKE THIS, ALL I CAN THINK OF IS... IT TICKLES!

AND, FINALLY....
Y'KNOW, DREAMBOAT, THERE'S ALWAYS SO MUCH TO READ IN THE PAPERS WHEN YOU'RE AROUND!
NOW THAT GIANT-MAN HAS COME INTO BEING, THEY'D BETTER START PRINTING MORE EDITIONS, MY PRETTY LITTLE PEST!
DAILY NEWS
Nation Wonders: "WHO IS GIANT-MAN?"
DAILY NEWS
MISSING SCIENTISTS FOUND!
WAIT TILL YOU SEE GIANT-MAN NEXT WEEK!!

TERRIFIC NEWS!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:— *TERRIFIC* 64, LONG ACRE LONDON, W.C.2

Dear Alf and Bart,
First of all I think that TERRIFIC is just FAB ! BUT I have one complaint to make, it's about your Doc. Strange story. In ish 4 you refer to the Doc's unphysical self as his ectoplasmic form. But in ish 5 you refer to it as his ethereal self, and, what's more, in ish 12 you refer to it as his ectoplasmic form again.
Would you, please, make up your mind. This frantic follower is getting even more frantic than usual !
Robert Read,
Crays Hull, Essex.

Ethereal and ectoplasmic are but two words to describe the same thing, R.R., so relax !—That's if you *can* relax wearing the new Avengers' T-shirt !
Alf and Bart.

Dear Jovial Duo,
So you think you've got a great bunch of super-heroes—eh ! Well,let me tell you this, in certain situations each of your heroes would be helpless !—e.g. :
The Thing in a beauty contest !
Iceman with an itch !
Daredevil missing a flagpole !
Angel getting air-sick !
Sgt. Fury with only one shirt !
Cyclops with a case of eye-strain !
And I could go on.
Ian Richardson,
Carnoustie, Angus.

You needn't, Ian, you've proved your point. We all have our blind spots—can you imagine any true frantic one at a *Brand X* convention ?
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
I get Terrific every week. I think it is great. Everybody in the house reads it. One day when I was walking home from the newsagent through a field I was reading Terrific. I was so interested in it that I walked into a pond of water and I got myself all wet ! I will never read Terrific on my way home again !
Patrick McDonnell,
Ballina, C. Mayo.

Hope the *mag* didn't get wet, Patrick !
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
I am a faithful follower of Power comics and would like to comment on the great job you are doing. I used to think your comics could never get better but you are still topping your old masterpieces. Of all your comics, I like Terrific the best.
There's Dr. Strange, in whose character you find someone truly unique—not just strength, or scientific genius, or mutation —rather the wisdom and power of a human intellect which has been trained in the mystic arts. You have put all the metaphysical and psychic sciences into this one great epic tale : mysticism, occultism, black magic, telepathy, teleportation, mesmerism and all the supernatural arts. This story alone makes Terrific worthy of the title that it bears—" The Best of British Comics."
Your sound effects are getting better all the time. A few *Rooks*, *Thwooks*, *Flaks* and *Fooms* here and there are a lot better than a bunch of *whaps*, *bamms* and *booms* everywhere. You guys deserve a medal ! ! And I don't mean the C.D.M. !
So, stand clear of gamma rays, chosen ones, and heed thou those fateful words—
Imperius Rex !
Malcolm Nobbs,
Folkestone, Kent.

Those words won't be heard again for a spell of course, Malcolm. Meanwhile we think Giant Man *lives up* to the *highest* standards of mag—what do you out there think ?
As for your glowing report of Dr. Strange—we couldn't agree more especially now that his dramatic, novel length, duel with Mordo and Dormammu approaches its climax !
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
The other day just by chance I was listening to my radio and I heard a group called the Powerpack ! I immediately thought of the POWERPACKED COMICS (or mags) FANTASTIC and TERRIFIC. I shall listen for a duo called Alfred and Bartholomew (alias Alf and Bart).
Gillian Wheatley,
Sheffield 2, Yorks.

Last time we sang together we broke the only pane of glass that we had in the garret, Gillian, and scared the lives out of everybody in the office ! Still looking forward to hearing us ? ?
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
How does Giant Man's costume shrink and grow as he changes size ? Has he ever shrunk to a smaller size than that of an ant ? What is the origin of the Wasp and her wings ? I DO LIKE the AVENGERS and Doctor (not found in the medical directory) Strange. I bet you guys are quite nice-looking and not like your cartoon likenesses.
P.S.—Keep up the TERRIFIC work. Here are some FANTASTIC words, BUY POWER COMICS OR ELSE !
Peter Jenkinson,
Glasgow, W.5.

When Ant Man (Henry Pym) revealed his secret identity to Janet van Dyne he asked her to become his partner. She accepted and Henry implanted special, microscopic, synthetic cells below her skin—so that when she went down to Wasp size she automatically grew wings.
On one or two occasions Ant Man *has* shrunk to smaller than insect size.
Both their costumes are made of unstable molecules which grow and shrink with their occupants.
On one or two occasions Ant Man has shrunk to smaller than insect size.
And if Doc Strange isn't in the medical directory that's only because he gave up practising medicine after his car crash. (Remember the first issue of Terrific ?)
Alf and Bart.

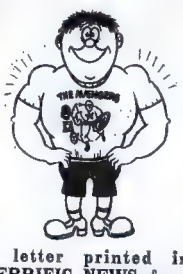
Dear Alf and Bart,
Here's just one of the thoughts of Fu Manchu : why not give TERRIFIC's ace agent Don Starr a fair crack of the whip ?
Two pages is far too small an area for anyone to spread their wings—especially in a mag in which ALL the other stories are EPIC length ! Don is the least DEVELOPED of your characters—which isn't surprising when you consider that he has to face as much action in two pages as the super-powered guys face in ten ! When are you garreteers going to deal out a little justice and give STARR enough space to realise his true potential ?
Simon Millet,
Norwich.

To hear is to obey, Fu Man Millet—and pretty soon Don will be able to stretch a little.
Alf and Bart.

Dear BLANK and BLANK,
Why are all your letters on the TERRIFIC NEWS page addressed to ALF and BART and never the other way round ?
D. Lloyd, London.

That's an easy one, D. L., it's just a matter of ALF—abetical order !
Alf and Bart.

Remember we're handing out Avenger T-shirts to all those who have



a letter printed in TERRIFIC NEWS from today until we run out !
Alf and Bart.

THE MIGHTY AVENGERS

"FOUR AGAINST The MINOTAUR!"

PART 2

AS THE NEW TEAM SEARCH **THE DESERT** FOR THE INCREDIBLE **HULK** THE GROUND **OPENS** BENEATH THEM... AND THEY **FALL** DEEP INTO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH...

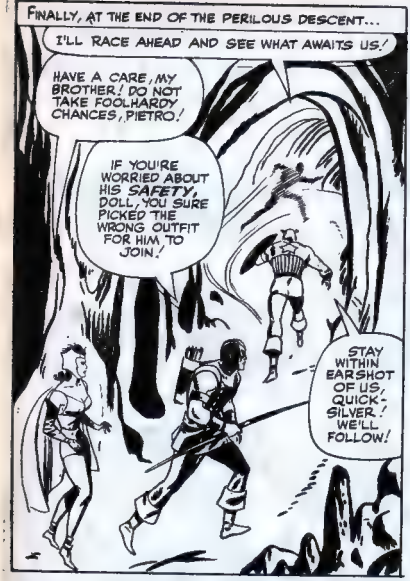
Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group.1965

CAPTAIN ☆ AMERICA

HAWKEYE

QUICKSILVER

THE SCARLET WITCH


FINALLY, AT THE END OF THE PERILOUS DESCENT...
I'LL RACE AHEAD AND SEE WHAT AWAITS US!
HAVE A CARE, MY BROTHER! DO NOT TAKE FOOLHARDY CHANCES, PIETRO!
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HIS SAFETY, DOLL, YOU SURE PICKED THE WRONG OUTFIT FOR HIM TO JOIN!
STAY WITHIN EARSHOT OF US, QUICK-SILVER! WE'LL FOLLOW!

BUT, SCANT SECONDS AFTER THE MASTER OF SPEED HAS VANISHED AROUND A BEND ...
AVENGERS!! AVENGERS!!
HE'S FOUND SOMETHING! LET'S MOVE!!
HE SOUNDS LIKE A MAN IN SHOCK! I DON'T LIKE IT!

PIETRO! WHAT IS IT? WHAT DID YOU SEE?
TELL ME I WAS DREAMING! SAY I IMAGINED IT! IT CAN'T BE REAL! IT CAN'T BE! NOTHING SO HORRIBLE CAN EXIST!
EASY, AVENGER! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER! WHATEVER IT WAS, WE'LL HANDLE IT! NOW TELL ME... WHAT DID YOU SEE?

I..I CAN'T DESCRIBE IT! BUT, LOOK FOR YOUR-SELF! I HEAR IT COMING NOW!
THAT HEAVY TREAD! THAT DEAFENING ROAR! EVEN THE WALLS OF THIS SUB-TERRANEAN CAVE ARE SHAKING! WHAT IN THE NAME OF CREATION CAN IT BE?
THERE IT IS! YOU WERE RIGHT, QUICKSILVER! QUICK... EVERYONE BEHIND ME! I'VE GOT TO FACE IT FIRST!

AND THEN, LIKE THE EVIL EMBODIMENT OF EVERY LEGENDARY MONSTER SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, SHEER HATRED, SHEER MENACE BLAZING IN ITS EYES, THE *MINOTAUR* APPEARS!!

A *MINOTAUR!!* THE MOST DREADED CREATURE OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY! HALF-MAN, HALF-BULL, TRAPPED UNDER THE EARTH, WAITING FOR ITS HUMAN VICTIMS!!

THAT MUST BE THE APPARITION WHICH *INSPIRED* THE ANCIENT LEGENDS! BUT...HOW CAN WE *BATTLE* IT?!

THE SAME AS WE BATTLE ANY *OTHER* DANGER...WITH COURAGE AND SKILL! AND TWO WORDS, RINGING ON OUR LIPS...

AVENGERS, ASSEMBLE!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

MY SHIELD HAD *NO EFFECT!* HE DIDN'T EVEN *FEEL* IT!

STEP ASIDE, CAP! THE AVENGERS ARE A *TEAM*, NOT A SOLO ACT!

NO MATTER *HOW* BIG HE IS, MY *BLAST ARROW'LL* STOP HIM!

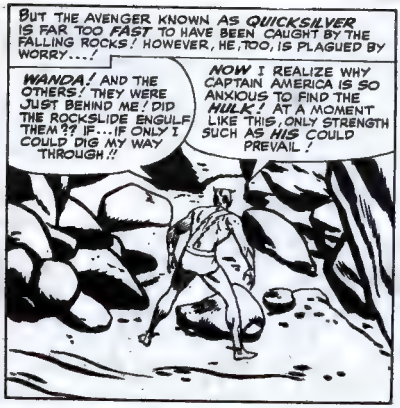
IF I SAY SO MYSELF, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BYE-BYE MINOTAUR!!

WELL, BEAUTIFUL, I GUESS THERE'S NO NEED TO WONDER WHO SHOULD GET THE "BEST PLAYER AWARD" ON THIS TEAM!
LOOK OUT!! BEHIND YOU!!

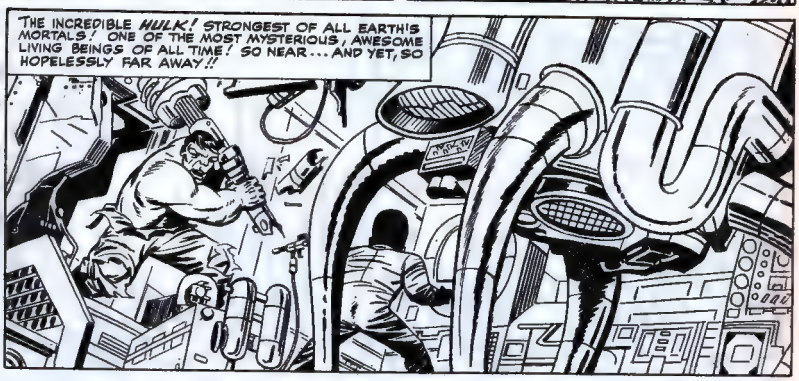
SKRUNNNCH!
HE SURVIVED THE BLAST! IF NOT FOR WANDA'S WARNING, I'D HAVE BEEN KAPUT!!

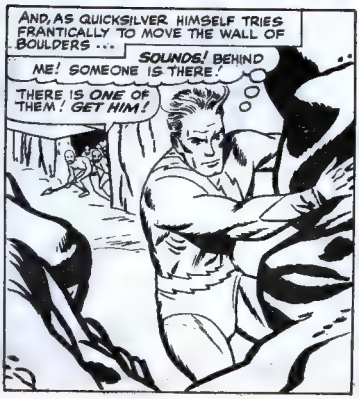
QUICK! TO THE NARROW END OF THE TUNNEL... ALL OF YOU!
IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE! MAYBE HE CAN'T GET AT US THERE!

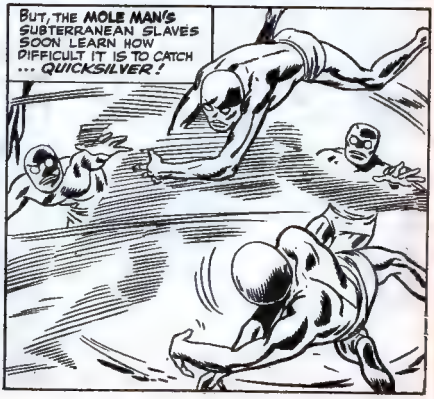
THAT RUMBLING UP AHEAD! WAIT! COME BACK! IT'S A ROCKSLIDE!! YOU'LL BE CRUSHED!
WE CAN'T GO FORWARD... AND THE MINOTAUR'S BEHIND US! MAYBE WE SHOULD LOOK FOR A NEW HOBBY!
PIETRO! HE WAS AHEAD OF US! THAT ROCKSLIDE... OH, NO!! PIETRO... MY BROTHER... PIETRO!!!

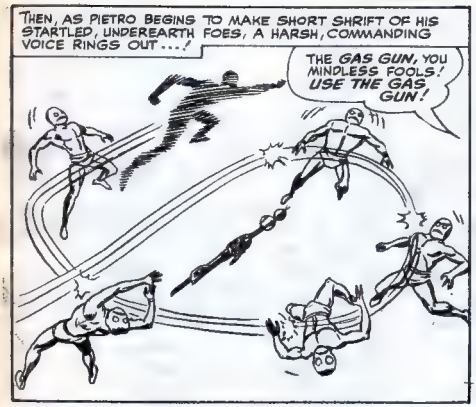

BUT THE AVENGER KNOWN AS QUICKSILVER IS FAR TOO FAST TO HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BY THE FALLING ROCKS! HOWEVER, HE, TOO, IS PLAGUED BY WORRY...!
WANDA! AND THE OTHERS! THEY WERE JUST BEHIND ME! DID THE ROCKSLIDE ENGULF THEM?? IF...IF ONLY I COULD DIG MY WAY THROUGH!!
NOW I REALIZE WHY CAPTAIN AMERICA IS SO ANXIOUS TO FIND THE HULK! AT A MOMENT LIKE THIS, ONLY STRENGTH SUCH AS HIS COULD PREVAIL!

HOW IRONIC ARE THE WAYS OF FATE!! FOR, AT THE SAME INSTANT THAT QUICKSILVER THINKS HIS NAME, THE RAMPAGING HULK IS USING HIS ALMOST LIMITLESS STRENGTH IN A DESPERATE BATTLE... LESS THAN ONE MILE AWAY!!
EVEN BATTLESHIP STEEL CAN'T KEEP HIM OUT!

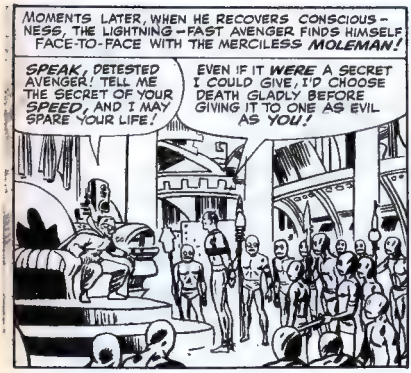

THE INCREDIBLE HULK! STRONGEST OF ALL EARTH'S MORTALS! ONE OF THE MOST MYSTERIOUS, AWESOME LIVING BEINGS OF ALL TIME! SO NEAR... AND YET, SO HOPELESSLY FAR AWAY!!


AND, AS QUICKSILVER HIMSELF TRIES FRANTICALLY TO MOVE THE WALL OF BOULDERS...
SOUNDS! BEHIND ME! SOMEONE IS THERE!
THERE IS ONE OF THEM! GET HIM!


BUT, THE MOLE MAN'S SUBTERRANEAN SLAVES SOON LEARN HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO CATCH ... QUICKSILVER!


THEN, AS PIETRO BEGINS TO MAKE SHORT SHRIFT OF HIS STARTLED, UNDEREARTH FOES, A HARSH, COMMANDING VOICE RINGS OUT...!
THE GAS GUN, YOU MINDLESS FOOLS! USE THE GAS GUN!

AND, WITH THE BLIND OBEDIENCE OF THE SUB-HUMANS THEY ARE, THE MOLEMAN'S SLAVES OBEY...!
WHOOOSH!


MOMENTS LATER, WHEN HE RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS, THE LIGHTNING-FAST AVENGER FINDS HIMSELF FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE MERCILESS MOLEMAN!
SPEAK, DETESTED AVENGER! TELL ME THE SECRET OF YOUR SPEED, AND I MAY SPARE YOUR LIFE!
EVEN IF IT WERE A SECRET I COULD GIVE, I'D CHOOSE DEATH GLADLY BEFORE GIVING IT TO ONE AS EVIL AS YOU!

I HAVE STUDIED ALL THE AVENGERS' CASE HISTORIES! I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, AND HOW YOU DREAM OF ONE DAY CONQUERING THE SURFACE WORLD!
ARROGANT FOOL! I HAVE WAYS TO MAKE YOU TALK!

TO THE DUNGEON WITH HIM! ONCE THE MINOTAUR HAS DESTROYED THE OTHERS, HE SHALL LEARN THAT NONE DEFY THE MOLEMAN!
THEN IT WAS YOU WHO PLANNED ALL THIS... WHO LURED US HERE... FOR YOUR OWN EVIL PURPOSES!

WHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL OF ROCK...
WE MUST ESCAPE! PIETRO MAY STILL BE ALIVE! HE MAY NEED US!
HE CAN'T REACH US IN THIS NARROW CREVICE... BUT WE CAN'T STAY HERE FOREVER!
HAWKEYE! YOU STILL HAVE AN ARROW WHICH MAY SAVE US!

HOW? IF MY BLAST ARROW DIDN'T STOP HIM...?!
THINK, AVENGER! YOUR FLARE ARROW! IT'S OUR ONE HOPE!!
OF COURSE! I SEE WHAT CAPTAIN AMERICA MEANS!!

THE MINOTAUR HAS LIVED HERE IN THE SEMI-DARKNESS FOR AGES! THE SIGHT OF A SUDDEN BURST OF LIGHT...!
ARGGHH!
YEAH! YEAH! I GET THE MESSAGE! HERE GOES!!

BUT, YOU KNOW YOUR SHIELD CANNOT HARM THE MINOTAUR!!
GOOD SHOT!! AND NOW, WE'LL FIGHT AGAIN! WE'LL FIGHT AS ONLY AVENGERS CAN!
HE'S NOT WHAT I'M AIMING AT..!!

YOU SLICED THROUGH THAT ROCK... OVERHEAD!!
NOW WATCH..!
ZZZZZZZZZZAKKKKKKK

KRAKK!
GOOD! IT MADE HIM TURN, JUST AS I PLANNED!
NOW THAT HE'S IN THE RIGHT POSITION, I'LL CATCH MY SHIELD ON THE REBOUND, AND NEXT---

SKRUTCH!
IT WORKED! I KNEW HE'D BUTT AT ME IN A FIT OF RAGE...AND, BY DUCKING IN TIME, HE HIT THE HARD SHALE ABOVE ME!!
NOW QUICKLY, WANDA...USE YOUR HEX POWER!!

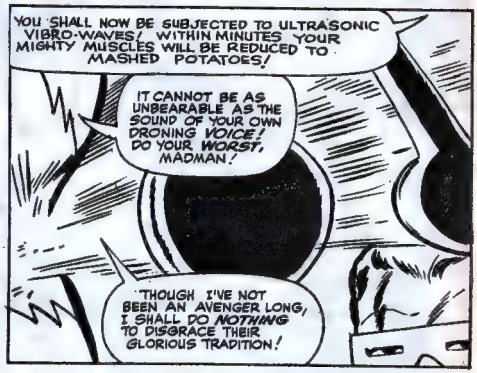
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO DO THE VERY THING!! STAND BACK....!!
WELL, WADDAYA KNOW!! ALL SHE DOES IS POINT, AND THE WHOLE WALL OF SHALE FALLS FORWARD, LOCKING ITSELF AROUND THE MINOTAUR'S HORNS!!

WE DID IT! FOR ALL HIS SIZE AND STRENGTH, WE TRAPPED HIM AS THOROUGHLY AS IF HE WERE JUST SOME PETTY CROOK!
ARGGHHH!

HIS HORNS ARE IMBEDDED SO DEEPLY; THAT HE'LL LEAVE THEM STUCK IN THE ROCK EVEN IF HE DOES PULL FREE!
AND, WITHOUT HIS HORNS, DEATH WOULD QUICKLY FOLLOW!
AND NOW, WANDA, WE'LL NEED YOUR HEX POWER AGAIN TO REMOVE THOSE ROCKS AHEAD AND REACH YOUR BROTHER!

MEANWHILE ...
I DO NOT FEAR TO DIE MOLE MAN ... BUT I WARN YOU ... THE AVENGERS WILL NEVER REST TILL YOU HAVE PAID FOR THIS DEED!
REMEMBER THEIR HISTORY! THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN DEFEATED YET!
BAH! YOU SPEAK OF THE OLD AVENGERS!! YOUR NEW TEAM HAVE NOT NEARLY THE SAME POWER!

AND NOW, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! TELL ME HOW I, TOO, MAY GAIN THE POWER OF MATCHLESS SPEED, OR ELSE SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!
THERE ONCE WAS A MAN ... NAMED MAGNETO! I THOUGHT HE SPOKE LIKE AN OLD-TIME MOVIE VILLAIN! BUT, YOU OUT-DO EVEN HIM!
YOU DARE TO MOCK ME! VERY WELL, THEN ... YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELF TO BLAME!


YOU SHALL NOW BE SUBJECTED TO ULTRASONIC VIBRO-WAVES! WITHIN MINUTES YOUR MIGHTY MUSCLES WILL BE REDUCED TO MASHED POTATOES!
IT CANNOT BE AS UNBEARABLE AS THE SOUND OF YOUR OWN DRONING VOICE! DO YOUR WORST, MADMAN!
THOUGH I'VE NOT BEEN AN AVENGER LONG, I SHALL DO NOTHING TO DISGRACE THEIR GLORIOUS TRADITION!

TRADITION... HAH! AFTER I'VE FINISHED YOU, I'LL...
AVENGERS... ATTACK!
THAT CRY... IT CAN'T BE! NO! NO!

THERE'S QUICKSILVER!! HE'S STILL ALIVE!!
HOLD ON, AVENGER! WE'RE COMING!!
THEY STILL LIVE!
PIETRO! WE'VE FOUND YOU!

TWO WELL PLACED ARROWS WILL HAVE YOU FREE IN SECONDS, PARTNER!
HURRY, HAWKEYE! THE MOLE MAN'S ESCAPING!
TWANG!
DON'T WORRY, SPEEDY! HE WON'T GET FAR!

SO! HE TRIED TO HARM YOU WITH THAT MACHINE, MY BROTHER!
I'LL USE MY STRONGEST HEX ON IT! THE EVIL DEVICE SHALL NEVER AGAIN MENACE ANOTHER VICTIM!!

PIETRO... WE DID IT!! UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CAPTAIN AMERICA, WE DEFEATED THE MINOTAUR!! AND WE FOUND YOU!
IT IS TO BE EXPECTED, MY SISTER!
WE ARE AVENGERS NOW!

HALT, MOLE MAN! THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR YOU... SO LONG AS I CAN HURL MY SHIELD!
CLANG!
STOP HIM! DEATH TO CAPTAIN AMERICA!

OH, NO YOU DON'T! NOT WHILE OL' HAWKEYE HAS A STUN-BLAST ARROW LEFT!

THEY FIGHT LIKE RAGING FURIES!
I DISMISSED MY MAIN FORCE OF SUBTERRANEANS... THINKING THE MINOTAUR WOULD FINISH THEM OFF! BUT NOW...!

WHO GETS HIM NOW, CAP?

WAIT! STAND YOUR GROUND! HE'S UP TO SOMETHING! THAT SWITCH HE JUST THREW...

LOOK! A GLASS ENCLOSURE IS RISING AROUND US! WE'RE IN THE CENTRE OF IT!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO RESORT TO THIS! BUT, THEY'RE TOO MUCH FOR ME! I'VE GOT TO FREE THEM... SEND THEM BACK TO THE SURFACE... BEFORE THEY DESTROY ME!

A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, A BLINDING FLASH FILLS THE HUGE UNDERGROUND CHAMBER, AND THEN...

WE'RE MOVING!! WHAT HAPPENED?

EASY, WANDA! THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR!

HE CHOSE SENDING US TO THE SURFACE, RATHER THAN FIGHTING US!

THEN WE'VE WON!! WE'VE HAD OUR BAPTISM OF BATTLE!!

BUT, WHAT OF THE HULK? WE DIDN'T FIND HIM...!

OUR SEARCH FOR THE HULK WAS A SUCCESS! FOR WE DID FIND THE MOST IMPORTANT THING...!

WE FOUND OUR TRUE STRENGTH TOGETHER! WE FOUND THAT WE DON'T NEED ANYONE ELSE'S POWER!

YOU'RE RIGHT, CAP! FIGHTING TOGETHER AS A TEAM, WE'RE STRONG ENOUGH FOR ANY FOE!

AND, PERHAPS IT IS JUST AS WELL THAT THE NEW AVENGERS, INDEED, THE MIGHTY AVENGERS... DO NOT KNOW THAT EACH FLEETING SECOND IS TAKING THEM FURTHER FROM THE SPOT WHERE A MAN LIES SICK A MAN WHO, JUST A FEW MOMENTS EARLIER, HAD BEEN... THE INCREDIBLE HULK!

HE SEEMS TO BE IN BAD SHAPE... HIS PULSE IS SO FAINT I CAN HARDLY FEEL IT...

• • •

BUT, UNMINDFUL OF THE STRANGE TRICK WHICH FATE HAD PLAYED UPON THEM, THE AVENGERS RETURN TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS, LITTLE DREAMING HOW CLOSE THEY HAD BEEN TO THE ONE THEY SOUGHT...!

THEY'RE PLEASANT AND FRIENDLY NOW... BUT HOW WILL THEY STAND UP TO OUR FIRST SET-BACK? ONLY TIME CAN TELL!

YOU HAVE JUST FINISHED READING A MILESTONE IN ADVENTURE LORE! BUT, IT IS ONLY A FORETASTE OF WHAT IS TO COME! SO, BE WITH US AGAIN NEXT ISH WHEN THE STIRRING CRY "AVENGERS ASSEMBLE" ECHOES THROUGHOUT THE LAND!

news from the floor of 64

64, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2.

NICK FURY DOESN'T KNOW IT, and certainly Dum Dum and the rest of the howlin' whatchamacallums don't know it . . . but week after week these 'POW' based battle-busters are put in their place by a strictly non-combat fair member of the fairer sex ! Namely a female ! By name of JOVIAL JANE HOOPELL !

S'a fact ! But having treated you Fury fans to this illusion-shattering info we feel we really DO owe you a fuller explanation ! It's like this : Jovial Jane is the latest (and best-looking yet) addition to the 'Pow' edit team. And one of Jane's jobs is to lay out the Fury strip-pictures, fitting them neatly and efficiently into place so that the boys really look their best on the finally-printed pages. Naturally, seeing how its 'Pow' she's working on, Spiderman also gets the full measure of Jane's close attention (and we hate to think what BETTY BRANT would say about *that*) ! as well as Willie Haggis, Davy, The Group and the rest of the 'Pow' lads !

Jane is doing a great job on 'Pow,' too ! —making the scoffers who claimed that shemales didn't belong around action-adventure, super-hero tales, eat their words ! So welcome aboard, Jane ! Maybe it is a man's world you're in . . . but who wants to keep it that way, hey ? ! !

And while we're still on the subject of US, here's another of our fabled fill-ins on unsung faithful friends and garreteers.

MEET TWENTY PROUD POWER-PACK PEOPLE . . .

Paul Lewis, Canvey Island, Essex. Alan Adams, Amesbury, Wilts. Martin Clarke, Dublin 7, Ireland. B. T. Taylor, Hayes, Middx. David Adler, Coventry. Nigel Cox, Hinkley, Leicester. Ian Simpson, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Raymond Potts, Sunderland, Co. Durham. Jim Dennison, Glasgow, Scotland. Peter Njoroge Flint, Kenya. Betty Prentice, Belfast 9, Northern Ireland. Peter N. Barry, Poynton, Cheshire. Jonathan Best, Liverpool 18. Anita Griffin, Kilkenny, Eire. Gerald Cochrone, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland. Mark Henshaw, Havant, Hants. J. Stanley, Aldridge, Staffs. Peter Catherall, Chester. John Winters, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland. A. Coop, Westthoughton, Nr. Bolton, Lancs.

So face front, frantic ones, and meet a very special Powerhouser with a very special job . . . KANNY KEITH MOTTS, accountant and expert sorter-out-of-editorial-muddles !

Kanny Keith can get more facts out of a set of figures than an army of fashion photographers ! ! *If it wasn't for Keith many of our writers and artists would get paid TWICE for the work they turn in (and would they like THAT !) or not paid at all, just because editorialisers sometimes tend to ignore the baser subjects like cash—especially other people's.*

Keith's the guardian angel who makes sure that you letter writers who get their screeds published in Power gets your QUIDS ! And he looks after US the same way, even though it's often a tough job. When we're deep down in our day-long editorial frenzies and Keith by contrast looking as cool as a deep-froze cucumber, insists that we come down out of our fiction clouds and deal with more practical matters like records and stock sheets and the like, we may *pretend* to gnash our teeth a little. But every time the muddle has been sorted out he leaves us feeling lighter of heart and wishing he'd do it more often.

But don't anyone TELL HIM SO, because what with press dates to keep and papers to bring out, we're *Pretty busy* right now ! !

EAGLE

Some weeks ago we revealed that the EAGLE rested on the roof of the garret. Well just of late there's been a lot of whispering going on up there, a lot of planning and, above all, a lot of ACTION! Being downright nosy we sent our spies in to investigate and they reported back with an advance copy of the new EAGLE the modern paper for the modern boy !

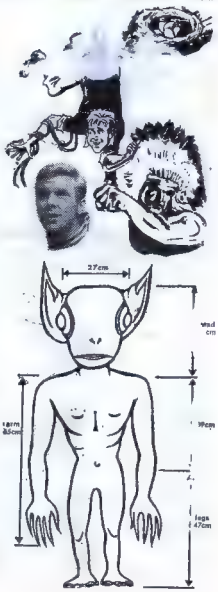
And for really meaty features PLUS some great all-action strips — this new EAGLE wants some beating !

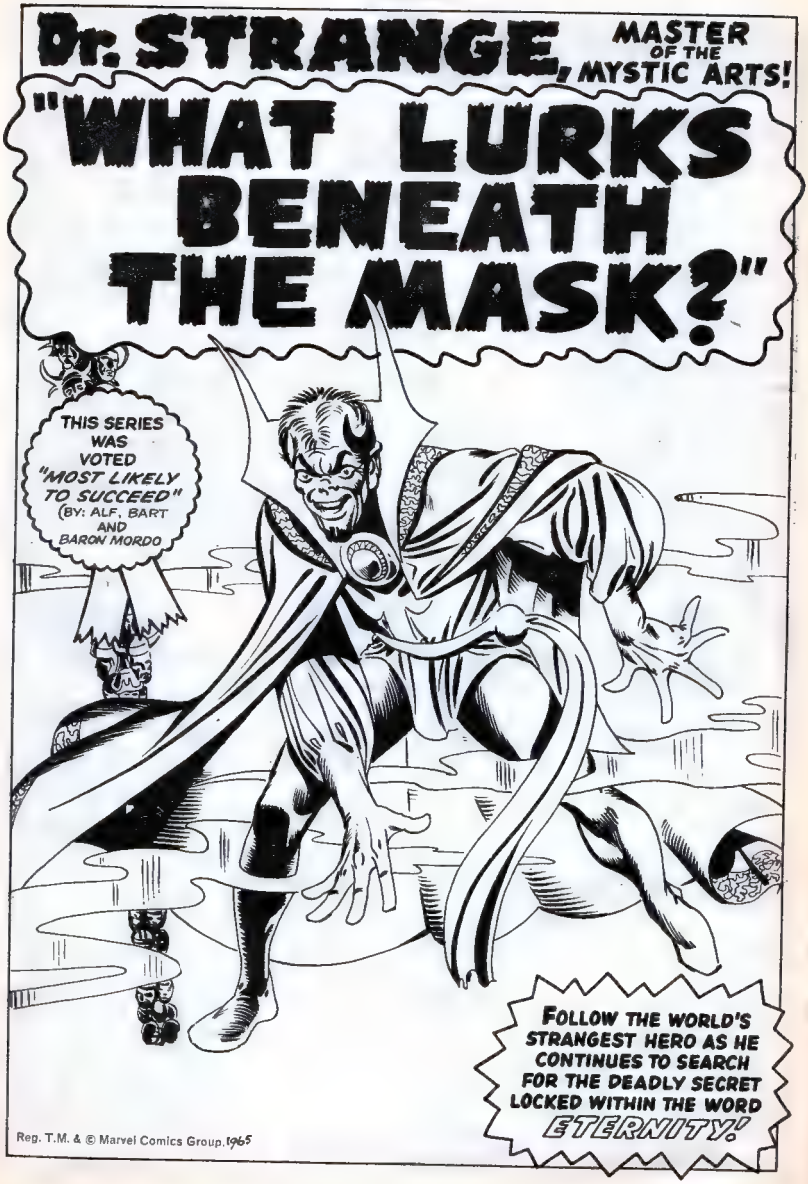
What is the world's biggest building?
IT'S IN EAGLE!

What would you do if an ALIEN from outer space landed in YOUR garden?
IT'S IN EAGLE!

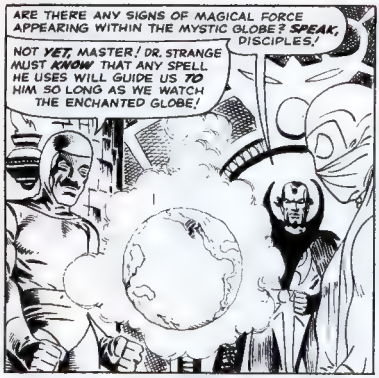
What have Blackbow, Micky Merlin, The Human Guinea Pig, and Bobby Moore got in common?
THEY'RE ALL IN EAGLE!

ON SALE ON WEDNESDAY!




Dr. STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!
"WHAT LURKS BENEATH THE MASK?"
THIS SERIES WAS VOTED "MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED" (BY: ALF, BART AND BARON MORDO
FOLLOW THE WORLD'S STRANGEST HERO AS HE CONTINUES TO SEARCH FOR THE DEADLY SECRET LOCKED WITHIN THE WORD ETERNITY!
Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group, 1965

IN A SHADOWY CORNER OF THE DIMENSION OF THE DREAD DORMAMMU, A FRIGHTENED FEMALE AWAITS THE FATE SHE KNOWS SHE CAN NEVER ESCAPE...
SOONER OR LATER, THE DREADED ONE WILL LEARN IT WAS I WHO FREED THE MINDLESS ONES* IN ORDER TO SAVE DR. STRANGE....
*AS SEEN IN TERRIFIC A COUPLE OF WEEKS BACK.
AND, WHEN HE DOES, HIS VENGEANCE IS CERTAIN TO BE SWIFT, AND DEADLY, AND-- OH!! HE'S FOUND ME ALREADY!
I'M ENSNARED WITHIN THE CONFINES OF A SINISTER SPELL! MY FATE IS SEALED!
BETRAYER! THERE YOU SHALL STAY UNTIL YOU SEE, WITH YOUR OWN HELPLESS EYES, THE FINAL DEFEAT OF DR. STRANGE! AND, WHEN THAT TIME COMES, YOU SHALL JOIN HIM IN THAT DEFEAT!
IT WAS ALL IN VAIN! THE EARTH HUMAN AND I ARE NOW BOTH DOOMED!
AND WHAT OF YOU, BARON MORDO?? I HAVE GIVEN YOU POWER! I HAVE PROTECTED YOU! BUT YOU HAVE FAILED ME!
NOT SO, DORMAMMU! I'LL CATCH STRANGE YET! I FINALLY HAVE A CLUE! I LEARNED THAT HE SEEKS THE SECRET OF-- ETERNITY!
HE SEARCHES FOR ETERNITY??! YOU WITLESS CLOD! YOU MUST STOP HIM! HE MUST NOT FIND IT! IT COULD DESTROY ALL MY FUTURE PLANS!
I-- DON'T UNDERSTAND! I HAVE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF IT!
IT IS KNOWLEDGE NOT INTENDED FOR SUCH AS YOU! BUT IT COULD DOOM US ALL IF HE FINDS IT! GO, MORDO! GO! DR. STRANGE MUST BE DESTROYED!
THIS TIME I'LL SUCCEED! I WON'T FAIL AGAIN!


ARE THERE ANY SIGNS OF MAGICAL FORCE APPEARING WITHIN THE MYSTIC GLOBE? SPEAK, DISCIPLES!
NOT YET, MASTER! DR. STRANGE MUST KNOW THAT ANY SPELL HE USES WILL GUIDE US TO HIM SO LONG AS WE WATCH THE ENCHANTED GLOBE!

THEN, UNTIL WE CAN FIND HIM, I CAN DO NOTHING! BUT I MUST AGAIN ALERT MY FOLLOWERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD...!
WHOSOEVER SEES THE ACCURSED DR. STRANGE MUST INFORM ME IMMEDIATELY, OR SUFFER MY DEADLY WRATH!

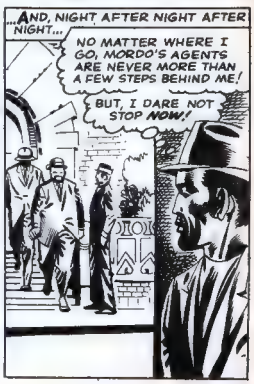
MEANWHILE, HALF-WAY AROUND THE GLOBE...
THIS IS THE HOUSE I SEEK!
BY WEARING MY CLOAK OF LEVITATION BENEATH MY SUIT, I CAN HOVER IN THE AIR WITHOUT THE USE OF A MAGIC SPELL!

YOU-- WHO SAVED MY LIFE MANY YEARS AGO!* COME IN, QUICK! MORDO'S SPIES ARE EVERYWHERE!
I HAVE NO TIME! JUST TELL ME ONE THING--WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF-- ETERNITY?
* REMIND US TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT SOME TIME-- ALF AND BART.

I HAVE HEARD THE WORD WHISPERED AT GATHERINGS OF THE ANCIENTS-- BUT HAVE NEVER PROBED ITS SECRET!
THEN YOU CANNOT HELP ME! I MUST SEARCH ELSEWHERE! TELL NONE THAT YOU HAVE SEEN ME!

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, CARELESS ONE! MORDO HAS COMMANDED THAT DR. STRANGE BE FOUND!
BAH! HE WOULD NEVER DARE COME TO A PLACE SUCH AS THIS!

AND, DAY AFTER DAY AFTER DAY...
I CANNOT HELP YOU! I KNOW NOTHING OF THE SECRET OF ETERNITY!
I THANK YOU FOR DARING TO SEE ME! I SHALL GO NOW!

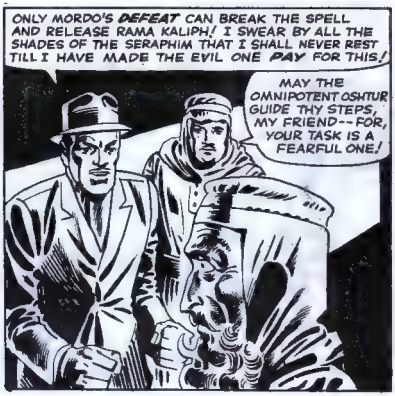

...AND, NIGHT AFTER NIGHT AFTER NIGHT...
NO MATTER WHERE I GO, MORDO'S AGENTS ARE NEVER MORE THAN A FEW STEPS BEHIND ME!
BUT, I DARE NOT STOP NOW!

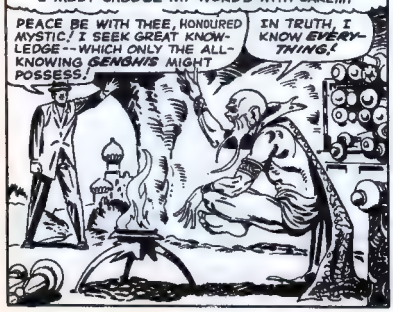
ENDLESSLY, WITHOUT REST, WITHOUT RESPITE, WITHOUT RELIEF, THE QUEST CONTINUES...
NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES--HOW HOPELESS IT SEEMS--I CAN NEVER GIVE UP!

ABU BEN HAKIM! PERHAPS YOU CAN TELL ME! THE LIFE OF THE ANCIENT ONE IS AT STAKE--!
NOT HERE, MY FRIEND! COME IN! THE NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES!

THE MASTER LIES DYING IN A HIDDEN CAVE! ONLY THE SECRET OF ETERNITY CAN SAVE HIM! YOU MUST TAKE ME TO RAMA KALIPH!
HE IS IN THE NEXT CHAMBER, MASTER OF MYSTICISM! BUT, ALAS, YOU HAVE COME TOO LATE!

EVIL MORDO SUSPECTED YOU MIGHT COME HERE, AND SO HE PLACED MY AGED TUTOR UNDER THE SPELL OF SILENCE!
THEN, EVEN IF HE KNOWS THE SECRET I SEEK, HE CAN NEVER REVEAL IT! ONCE AGAIN I'VE COME TO A DEAD END!


ONLY MORDO'S DEFEAT CAN BREAK THE SPELL AND RELEASE RAMA KALIPH! I SWEAR BY ALL THE SHADES OF THE SERAPHIM THAT I SHALL NEVER REST TILL I HAVE MADE THE EVIL ONE PAY FOR THIS!
MAY THE OMNIPOTENT OSHTUR GUIDE THY STEPS, MY FRIEND--FOR, YOUR TASK IS A FEARFUL ONE!

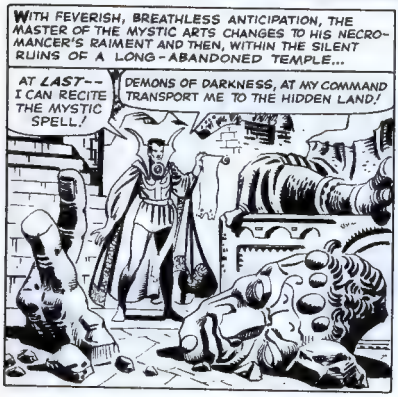

BUT FINALLY, IN A DANK, SHADOWY CAVE, IN A SECTION OF THE FAR EAST WHERE FEW OCCIDENTALS HAVE EVER DARED VENTURE...
THE COUNTLESS YEARS HAVE BROUGHT MADNESS TO THE AGED GENGHIS! I MUST CHOOSE MY WORDS WITH CARE...!
PEACE BE WITH THEE, HONOURED MYSTIC! I SEEK GREAT KNOWLEDGE--WHICH ONLY THE ALL-KNOWING GENGHIS MIGHT POSSESS!
IN TRUTH, I KNOW EVERYTHING!

THEN, YOU MUST CERTAINLY KNOW THE SECRET MEANING OF--ETERNITY!
ETERNITY??! OF COURSE I DO! I--AND I ALONE! ALL THE OTHERS WHO SHARED THAT KNOWLEDGE HAVE GONE TO THE GREAT BEYOND! ONLY I REMAIN!

WAIT! THERE IS ONE OTHER WHO KNOWS! IT IS THE ANCIENT ONE! HE TRIED TO ERASE THE SECRET! BUT I STILL REMEMBER!
TELL ME THEN! WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

I AM OLD--MY MIND IS CLOUDED! I CANNOT REMEMBER THE MEANING! BUT--I HAVE A SCROLL! YES--THAT'S IT! THE SCROLL!
THIS IS WHAT I FEARED! HIS MIND RAMBLES! BUT, IF HE FINDS THE SCROLL...!

THERE! THAT IS THE ANSWER! IT IS WRITTEN ON THE PARCHMENT!
IT'S SO ANCIENT--SO FADED--BUT I CAN READ ONE WORD--ETERNITY! THIS MUST BE IT!


WITH FEVERISH, BREATHLESS ANTICIPATION, THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS CHANGES TO HIS NECROMANCER'S RAIMENT AND THEN, WITHIN THE SILENT RUINS OF A LONG-ABANDONED TEMPLE...
AT LAST--I CAN RECITE THE MYSTIC SPELL!
DEMONS OF DARKNESS, AT MY COMMAND TRANSPORT ME TO THE HIDDEN LAND!

AN ENTRANCE!! APPEARING OUT OF NOWHERE! I MUST ENTER IT--NO MATTER WHERE IT LEADS!

AND, AT THAT VERY SECOND...
MASTER! BEHOLD THE GLOBE!
THE SIGN OF A MYSTIC SPELL! IT'S DR. STRANGE! I MUST REACH HIM AT ONCE!

BUT, DESPITE MORDO'S AWESOME SPEED...
I'M A SPLIT-SECOND TOO LATE!
THAT ETHEREAL ENTRANCE IS SEALING SHUT BEHIND HIM!

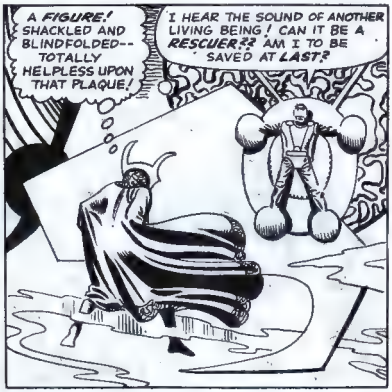
THE ENTRANCE MELTED INTO NOTHINGNESS, DORMAMMU! I COULD NOT FOLLOW! BUT, THIS SCROLL WAS LEFT BEHIND!
QUICKLY! LET ME SEE IT!!

THE FOOL! IN HIS EAGERNESS TO FIND ETERNITY, HE DID NOT NOTICE IT WAS A DIFFERENT SPELL! IT CAN LEAD HIM ONLY TO--ETERNAL DOOM!
BUT, WHAT IF HE ESCAPES?

THEN, WE SHALL FIND HIM AGAIN! TIME HAS NO MEANING TO ME!
IF ONLY I COULD FREE MYSELF OF DORMAMMU! EVEN I FEAR HIS ALMOST LIMITLESS POWER!

AND, AT THE OTHER SIDE OF NOWHERE...
WHAT PLACE IS THIS? IT REEKS OF EVIL! WAS I TOO HASTY? SHOULD I HAVE READ THE SCROLL MORE CAREFULLY--?

COLUMNS OF MASKS! THE MOST LIFELIKE I HAVE EVER SEEN! BUT, WHO FASHIONED THEM? AND, FOR WHAT UNEARTHLY PURPOSE??!

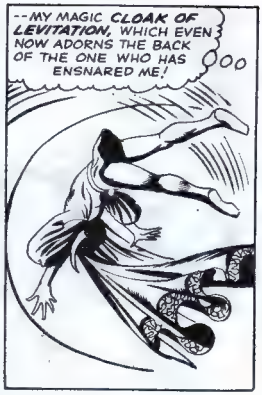

A FIGURE! SHACKLED AND BLINDFOLDED--TOTALLY HELPLESS UPON THAT PLAQUE!
I HEAR THE SOUND OF ANOTHER LIVING BEING! CAN IT BE A RESCUER?? AM I TO BE SAVED AT LAST?

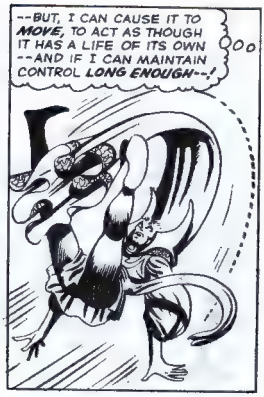
I SHALL HELP YOU IF I CAN! WHO DID THIS TO YOU? SPEAK!
NO! I DO NOT BELIEVE YOU! IT IS ANOTHER TRICK! THE DEMON IS TOYING WITH ME AGAIN! IF YOU ARE NOT THE DEMON, REMOVE MY MASK AND LET ME GAZE UPON YOU--!

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ME! I SHALL SHOW YOU--!
THEN IT'S TRUE? I AM ABOUT TO BE SAVED?? QUICKLY, QUICKLY--LET ME SEE THY FACE--!!!

BUT, THE INSTANT THE BLINDFOLD IS REMOVED...
HAH! I HAVE TRAPPED ANOTHER VICTIM!! IT IS I WHO AM THE DEMON--AND I HAVE TRICKED YOU INTO FREEING THE POWER OF MY EYES!
ONCE ANYTHING THAT LIVES GAZES INTO MY ENCHANTED EYES, I BECOME ITS MASTER!!
--WHILE YOU--YOU BECOME ANOTHER LIVING TROPHY TO BE ADDED TO MY OCCULT COLLECTION!
SEE HOW EASILY I CAUSE YOU TO EXCHANGE PLACES WITH ME! THIS IS THE PRICE ALL MUST PAY WHEN THEY ENTER MY NETHERWORLD OF DOOM!
I'M TRAPPED--EXACTLY IN THE SAME MANNER ME SEEMED TO BE WHEN I FOUND HIM!! WHAT MAD WORLD HAVE I BLUNDERED INTO??
ONLY BY LOOKING INTO MY EYES ONCE MORE CAN YOU BREAK THE SPELL!
BUT, I SHALL SEE TO IT THAT YOU NEVER GET THE CHANCE!
click!
ALREADY A MYSTIC MOULD BEGINS TO COVER MY FACE--!
IT IS THE ULTIMATE TRAP!! I CAN UTTER NO SPELL--I CANNOT USE MY HANDS--EVEN MY ECTOPLASMIC SPIRIT FORM IS UNABLE TO LEAVE MY BODY!!
WITHIN MINUTES YOUR MASK WILL BE COMPLETE--AND I SHALL ADD IT TO MY MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF VICTIMS!!
IF THERE IS ANYTHING TO BE DONE, I MUST DO IT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW SECONDS!!

ONLY MY BRAIN IS STILL FREE--MY BRAIN, WHICH CAN STILL CONTROL ONE THING--


--MY MAGIC CLOAK OF LEVITATION, WHICH EVEN NOW ADORNS THE BACK OF THE ONE WHO HAS ENSNARED ME!


--BUT, I CAN CAUSE IT TO MOVE, TO ACT AS THOUGH IT HAS A LIFE OF ITS OWN --AND IF I CAN MAINTAIN CONTROL LONG ENOUGH--!

--MY CLOAK WILL WRAP ITSELF AROUND HIM, BINDING HIM, TRAPPING HIM EVEN AS I MYSELF AM TRAPPED!!
THIS IS MADNESS! THE CLOAK IS ALIVE!

NO, CREATURE OF EVIL -- NOT ALIVE -- MERELY SUBJECT TO THE MENTAL CONTROL OF DR. STRANGE!

I CAN'T FIGHT IT!! IT'S EVERYWHERE-- IT'S MAKING ME HELPLESS--!!

THIS MUST BE THE WORK OF MY VICTIM! HE'S STRONGER THAN I SUSPECTED! THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE MYSELF IS TO FREE HIM--!!

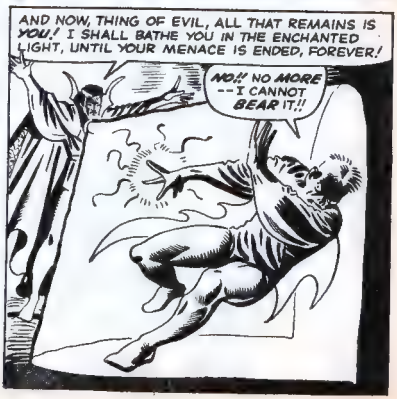
I'LL REMOVE HIS MASK--HE WON'T SUSPECT THAT I STILL HAVE A WAY TO DEFEAT HIM!
AT LAST!! ANOTHER FEW SECONDS WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO LATE! I WAS GROWING FATALLY WEAK--!

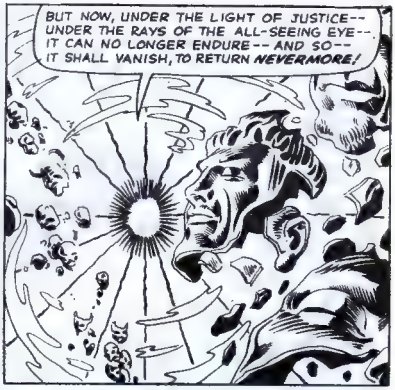
AND NOW THAT I HAVE BROKEN YOUR SPELL, I COMMAND YOU TO RELEASE ME!

INSTANTANEOUSLY, ALL IS BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN, AS DR. STRANGE ONCE MORE IS GARBED IN HIS OWN COLOURFUL HABIT...
AND NOW--!
STOP! YOU ARE STILL NOT SAFE!
I SHALL SET MY VICTIMS FREE, AND THEY SHALL DEFEAT YOU FOR ME!

SO LONG AS I POSSESS THEIR MASKS, THEY MUST OBEY ME! THEY WILL DESTROY YOU!!
I CANNOT FIGHT INNOCENT VICTIMS WHO ATTACK ME MERELY TO SAVE THEIR OWN PITIFUL LIVES! AND YET, I MUST PROTECT MYSELF--!!
THEY HAVE BEEN TRAPPED HERE FROM ALL AGES--FROM ALL WORLDS--AND NOW, THEY SHALL SEE TO IT THAT YOU JOIN THEIR RANKS!! AT HIM, MY SLAVES!!!

IN THE NAME OF THE ETERNAL VISHANTI, MAY THE LIGHT OF THE ALL-SEEING EYE OF AGOMOTTO SEND THEM BACK FROM WHENCE THEY CAME!
BEGONE, HELPLESS ONES! YOU ARE FREE! THE DEMON CONTROLS YOU NO LONGER!

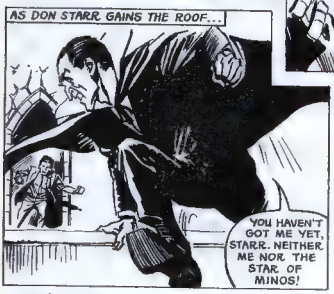

AND NOW, THING OF EVIL, ALL THAT REMAINS IS YOU! I SHALL BATHE YOU IN THE ENCHANTED LIGHT, UNTIL YOUR MENACE IS ENDED, FOREVER!
NO!! NO MORE--I CANNOT BEAR IT!!

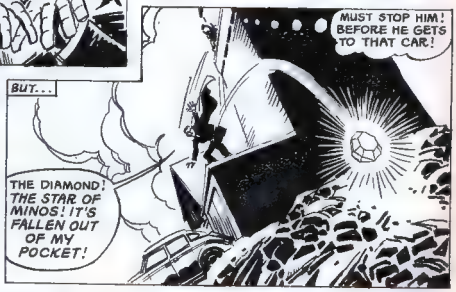


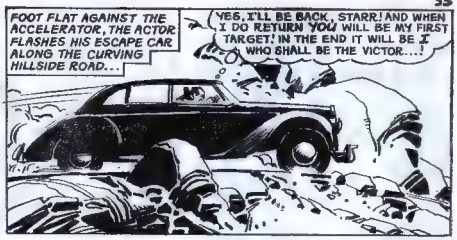
NEXT WEEK: YOUR STARTLED EYES WILL BEHOLD A BATTLE SUCH AS NO MORTALS HAVE EVER SEEN BEFORE!! YOU MUST NOT MISS THE BATTLE OF THE MINDS!!! TILL THEN, MAY THE VAPOURS OF VALTORR SHIELD THEE FROM HARM!

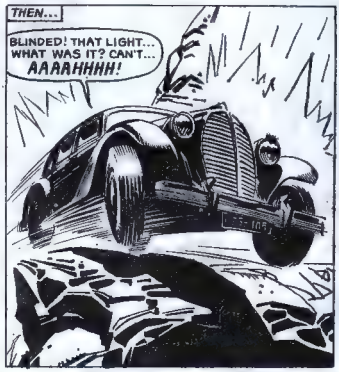
THE DRAMA OF DOOM

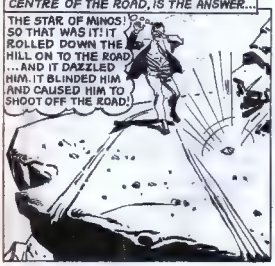
THE CRIMINAL CALLED THE ACTOR HAS STOLEN THE PRICELESS DIAMOND, THE STAR OF MINOS. HE FLEES INTO A HILL-TOP MANSION... BUT ACE SECURITY AGENT DON STARR PURSUES...

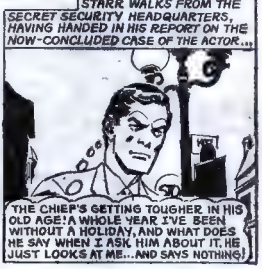




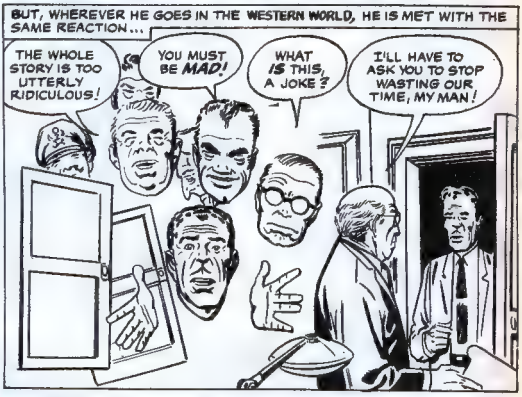


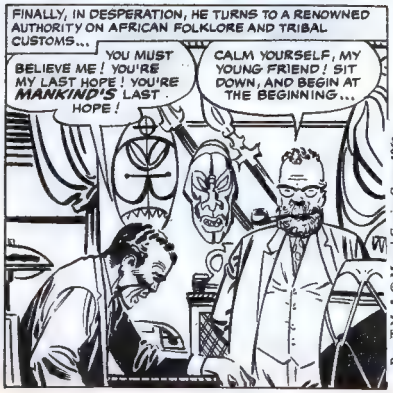




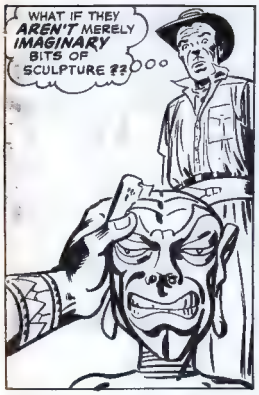


NEXT WEEK: APPOINTMENT WITH FEAR!





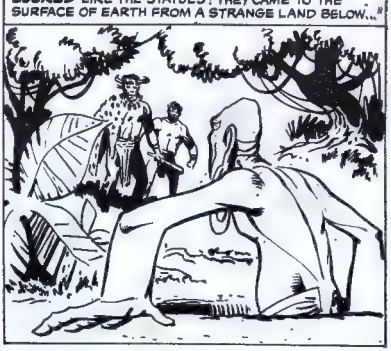
Reg T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group 1961


WHAT IF THEY AREN'T MERELY IMAGINARY BITS OF SCULPTURE ??

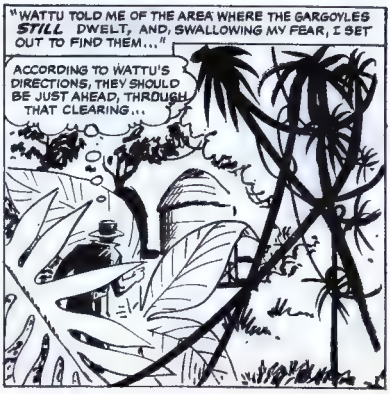
AFTER ALL, THE SCULPTORS MIGHT NOT HAVE THAT MUCH IMAGINATION! WHAT IF THEY HAVE ACTUALLY SEEN A RACE OF PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE THE STATUES ?

"BUT THE NATIVES WOULD NEVER TELL WHEN I ASKED THEM! AND THEN, ONE DAY, I SAVED THE LIFE OF WATTU, A FRIENDLY TRIBESMAN...
JUST IN TIME !

"HE HAD A GARGOYLE STATUE AMONG HIS POSSESSIONS. AND OUT OF GRATITUDE TO ME FOR SAVING HIS LIFE, HE TOLD ME WHAT HE KNEW OF THE STATUES..."
THERE IS AN ANCIENT TALE, WHICH I HEARD AS A BOY, B'WANA! I SHALL TELL IT TO YOU-- TO YOU, WHO HAVE SAVED ME FROM ALMOST CERTAIN DEATH!


"HE TOLD ME HOW HIS PEOPLE, GENERATIONS AGO, HAD ACTUALLY DISCOVERED A RACE OF CREATURES WHO LOOKED LIKE THE STATUES! THEY CAME TO THE SURFACE OF EARTH FROM A STRANGE LAND BELOW..."

"THEY KEPT THEIR PRESENCE SECRET FROM CIVILIZED PEOPLE, BUT ALLOWED THE NATIVES TO TREAT THEM LIKE GODS, AND TO CARVE IDOLS MODELLED AFTER THEM..."


"WATTU TOLD ME OF THE AREA WHERE THE GARGOYLES STILL DWELT, AND, SWALLOWING MY FEAR, I SET OUT TO FIND THEM..."
ACCORDING TO WATTU'S DIRECTIONS, THEY SHOULD BE JUST AHEAD, THROUGH THAT CLEARING...

"AND THEN, I SAW THEM!"
IT'S TRUE! THEY EXIST!

"I SAW THEM COMING OUT OF THE GROUND, LOOKING EXACTLY LIKE THE STRANGE, GROTESQUE STATUES WHICH WE ARE SO FAMILIAR WITH TODAY!"

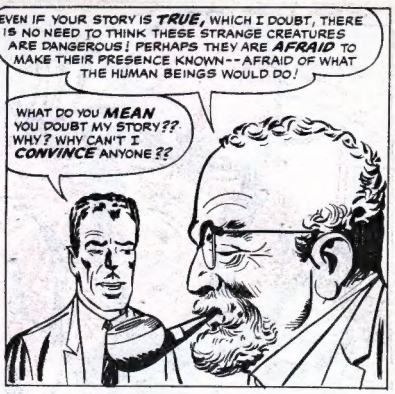
" THEY WERE FRIENDLY WITH THE NATIVES-- FOR THEY SUSPECTED THAT NO ONE WAS WATCHING!"

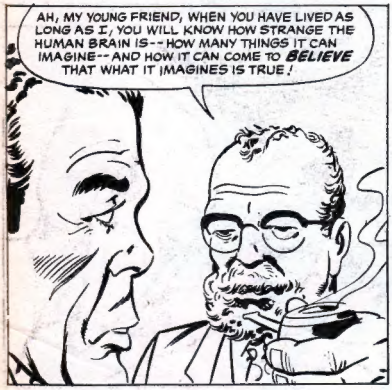
" BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, TO MY DISMAY..."
ONE OF THEM SEES ME!

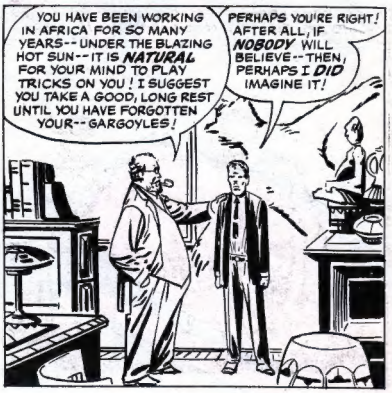
I'VE GOT TO FLEE FOR MY LIFE! NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL DO IF THEY FIND ME!

"I USED EVERY TRICK, EVERY RUSE I HAD LEARNED IN A LIFETIME OF JUNGLE LIVING TO EVADE THEM-- AND I WAS SUCCESSFUL!"

YOU KNOW THE REST... I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEIR MISSION IS -- WHAT THEIR PURPOSE IS, BUT IT MUST BE A DANGER TO MANKIND -- OR ELSE THEY WOULDN'T KEEP THEIR PRESENCE SECRET!
IT IS AN AMAZING TALE YOU TELL, MY FRIEND!


EVEN IF YOUR STORY IS TRUE, WHICH I DOUBT, THERE IS NO NEED TO THINK THESE STRANGE CREATURES ARE DANGEROUS! PERHAPS THEY ARE AFRAID TO MAKE THEIR PRESENCE KNOWN -- AFRAID OF WHAT THE HUMAN BEINGS WOULD DO!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DOUBT MY STORY?? WHY? WHY CAN'T I CONVINCE ANYONE??


AH, MY YOUNG FRIEND, WHEN YOU HAVE LIVED AS LONG AS I, YOU WILL KNOW HOW STRANGE THE HUMAN BRAIN IS -- HOW MANY THINGS IT CAN IMAGINE -- AND HOW IT CAN COME TO BELIEVE THAT WHAT IT IMAGINES IS TRUE!


YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING IN AFRICA FOR SO MANY YEARS -- UNDER THE BLAZING HOT SUN -- IT IS NATURAL FOR YOUR MIND TO PLAY TRICKS ON YOU! I SUGGEST YOU TAKE A GOOD, LONG REST UNTIL YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN YOUR -- GARGOYLES!
PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT! AFTER ALL, IF NOBODY WILL BELIEVE -- THEN, PERHAPS I DID IMAGINE IT!

IN FACT, NOW THAT I'M HERE IN CIVILIZATION... THE WHOLE THING SOUNDS SILLY EVEN TO ME! THANK YOU, DOCTOR -- I WILL TAKE A HOLIDAY AND FORGET THE ENTIRE MATTER!
YOU ARE WISE, MY BOY! THERE IS NOTHING TO GAIN BY TRYING TO CONVINCE PEOPLE OF SO FANTASTIC A TALE!

AND THAT IS WHY WE GARGOYLES HAVE MANAGED TO EXIST, UNMOLESTED BY THE HUMAN RACE, FOR ALL THESE AGES! BECAUSE MEN REFUSE TO BELIEVE ANYTHING WHICH IS TOO FANTASTIC -- EVEN WHEN THEY HAVE THE EVIDENCE OF THEIR OWN EYES TO FALL BACK UPON!

A Power House PIN-UP
GIANT-MAN
Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group.

MINUTES LATER ...
DO NOT BE IMPATIENT! SOON YOU WILL BE TAKEN TO OUR SCIENCE LABORATORY!
A LOT OF GOOD I'LL DO YOUR SCIENTISTS!
YOU CAN'T KEEP US HERE THIS WAY!
RELAX, PROFESSOR! THEY CAN AND THEY KNOW IT!

THE GUARDS ARE LEAVING! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
OUR CHANCE FOR WHAT?

I'LL EXPLAIN AS WE GO! SEE THAT SMALL ELECTRONIC DEVICE ON THE CEILING? DISMANTLE IT!!
WHAT A BOSSY HUSBAND YOU'D MAKE!

IT'S SOME SORT OF SCANNING DEVICE! THEY MUST KEEP TABS ON THEIR PRISONERS THIS WAY!
R-RIP!
BUT NOT ANY LONGER! I DISCONNECTED THE THINGAMY FROM THE WHATCHAMACALLIT!
GOOD GIRL! NOW I'LL TAKE MY GROWTH CAPSULE!

LOOK! WE - WE HAVE A NEW GUEST!
LISTEN, QUICKLY, GENTLEMEN! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME ... I'M HERE TO HELP YOU!
HE'S GROWING BEFORE OUR EYES!